

**8th grade English**

**Vocab List 1: Writing**

1. paragraph – an organized group of sentences that convey a single idea

2. purpose - the author’s reason for writing (to persuade, inform, entertain, etc.)

3. main idea - the single conclusion that a reader draws; the what the author wants to express

4. introduction - the opening paragraph of an essay that provides focus for the rest of the essay

5. hook (attention-getter) - a catchy, interesting way to generate interest in an introduction; first few

lines

6. thesis - the last line of the intro; names three or more specific subtopics to follow

7. body paragraph - paragraphs in the middle of an essay that explain the three points of a thesis

8. supporting details - details discussed within a paragraph that explain the main idea

9. topic sentence - the first sentence of a body paragraph; gives focus to the paragraph

10. conclusion - last paragraph in an essay; restates thesis; draws conclusions; tells “so what?”

11. informative - writing that is meant to teach, explain, educate on a specific topic

12. narrative - writing that tells a story, has a plot and theme; uses sensory details, quotations

13. argumentative - writing that explains a controversial issue and persuades the reader

14. bias - an author’s slant or predisposition towards a specific controversial topic

15. subjective - observations or conclusions based on one’s opinion or bias

16. objective - looking at an issue from an unbiased perspective

17. opinion - one’s conclusion on a controversial topic

18. style - the use of voice, vocabulary, and sentence structure to make writing unique

19. unity - sentences in a paragraph that are all related to a single topic

20. cohesion - the logical arrangement of sentences in a paragraph; use of transition words